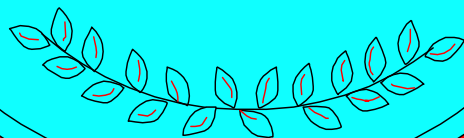




INSTEAD

Phil 3:14
I press toward
the mark for
the prize of the
high calling of
God in Christ
Jesus.



AMBITION

A Study guide for Leaders in the Body of Christ

BY TIMOTHY II

AMBITION

A 'WORD FROM THE LORD' TO TIMOTHY II JULY 5, 1996

THE WORD FROM THE LORD:

“Ambition is not of the Lord”

1. INTRODUCTION:

On July 5th, 1996, Timothy II received a very clear ‘Word from the Lord’. It was on “Ambition”. Although Timothy II was not studying or reading about anything that has to do with “Ambition”, the word just popped into his mind. Suddenly the Lord said, “Ambition is not of the Lord”. After writing it down, the Lord began to reveal that in the Church, many of His people are following their “Ambitions” rather than the Lord. Since this is what the world does, and this is what we did when we were in the world, it seems to be the natural thing to do.

However, as the Scriptures that the Lord gave to Timothy II reveal, the wisdom that comes from our “Ambition”, is not from God. That is why the Church is struggling to compete with the world, and has used the world’s methods for growth and power. This leads to envy and strife and confusion, which is just what the devil wants. (Gal.5:26) What we need to realize is that we are not responsible for the whole world, but rather only for those that the Lord gives us. (John 17:9) We don’t need to compete with one another.

When we begin to realize this, we will quit competing and struggling, and trying to build an empire, and we will find real love, joy and peace in the Holy Spirit. (Gal. 5:22)

2. WHAT IS AMBITION?

The Dictionary says:

AMBITION:

Desire for advancement, wealth, honor, or power.

AMBITIOUS:

Eager for success, honor, or fame; determined to succeed. Syn. aspiring, determined, energetic, pretentious, pushing, showy.

The Bible says:

AMBITION: The word is not in the Bible.

Although the word “Ambition” is not in the Bible, there are many Scriptures that refer to it. The following are examples of just a few.

AMBITION: (For Wealth)

Ps 62:10

10**If riches increase, set not your heart upon them.**

Matt 6:19-21

19 **Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth**, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

21 **For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**

Matt 6:24

24 **No man can serve two masters:** for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. **Ye cannot serve God and mammon.**

1 Tim 6:5-6

5 Perverse disputings of **men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness:** from such withdraw thyself.

6 **But godliness with contentment is great gain.**

1 Tim 6:8-11

8 **And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.**

9 **But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.**

10 **For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.**

11 **But thou, O man of God, flee these things; ...**

(See Proverbs 15:16 22:4 23:4, 5)

AMBITION: (For Power)

Matt 16:24-26

24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, **If any man will come after me, let him deny himself**, and take up his cross, and follow me.

25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

26 **For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?**

Matt 18:1-4

1 At the same time came **the disciples** unto Jesus, saying, **Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?**

2 And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,

3 And said, Verily I say unto you, **Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.**

4 **Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.**

Luke 22:24-27

24 **And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.**

25 And he said unto them, **The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them;** and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.

26 But ye shall not be so: but **he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.**

27 **For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth?** is not he that sitteth at meat? **but I am among you as he that serveth.**

Matt 23:11-12

11 **But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.**

12 **And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.**

(See Proverbs 25:14)

AMBITION: (For Prestige)

Matt 23:1-8

1 Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples,

2 Saying, **The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat:**

3 All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for **they say, and do not.**

4 For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.

5 But **all their works they do for to be seen of men:** they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments,

6 **And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues,**

7 **And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.**

8 **But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.**

Luke 20:46-47

46 **Beware of the scribes, which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts;**

47 **Which devour widows' houses, and for a shew make long prayers: the same shall receive greater damnation.**

John 12:43

43 **For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.**

John 7:18

18 **He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory:** but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.

(See Proverbs 3:7 27:2 28:21)

3. THE SCRIPTURES THE LORD HAS GIVEN TO TIMOTHY II TO GO WITH THIS WORD:

If we are “*Ambitious*” in doing the work of the ministry; then the wisdom of the word that we are receiving, is not from the Lord. Therefore it is earthly, sensual, and devilish.

James 3:13-18

13 **Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you?** let him shew out of a good conversation his works **with meekness of wisdom.**

14 **But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.**

15 **This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.**

16 **For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.**

17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

If the word is not coming from the Lord, then we will begin to listen to ‘seducing spirits’. If this continues, we will soon depart from the faith. (This includes Church Leaders).

1 Tim 4:1-2

1 **Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;**

2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

The way we know when we are out of God’s will, is that the things that we do will be of the world, or imitate the world; even though we may be doing the work of the Church.

Rom 12:1-2

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 **And be not conformed to this world:** but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, **that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.** (This is for the Church as well as the individual)

We then begin to compare ourselves with those who are in the world who commend themselves; thus believing that we **are** in God’s Will.

Luke 18:9-14

9 **And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:**

10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

11 **The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are,** extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

12 **I fast** twice in the week, **I give tithes** of all that I possess.

13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14 **I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.**

2 Cor 10:12

12 **For we dare not** make ourselves of the number, or **compare ourselves with some that commend themselves:** but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

2 Cor 10:18

18 **For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.**

This is a Spiritual battle, not a physical (carnal) one. Therefore, this battle must be fought in the Spirit, through prayer.

2 Cor 10:4-5

4 **(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)**

5 **Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;**

Therefore, we must put on the 'Full Armor of God', and not go to the 'flesh' for help. (This includes the Church as well as the individual).

Eph 6:11-18

11 **Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

12 **For we wrestle not against flesh and blood,** but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13 **Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God,** that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, **and having done all, to stand.**

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with **truth**, and having on the breastplate of **righteousness;**

15 And your feet shod with the preparation of **the gospel of peace;**

16 Above all, taking the shield of **faith**, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17 And take the helmet of **salvation**, and the sword of **the Spirit**, which is **the word of God:**

18 **Praying always** with all prayer and supplication **in the Spirit**, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication **for all saints;**

If we don't do this, and turn to the 'flesh', then we become the 'children of disobedience', which we were before.

Eph 2:1-3

- 1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;
 2 **Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world,**
 according to the prince of the power of the air, **the spirit that now worketh in the**
children of disobedience:
 3 **Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past** in the lusts of our
 flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; **and were by nature the**
children of wrath, even as others.

Therefore, let us not turn back again to Satan. Who will put us once again under the 'yoke of bondage'.

Gal 5:1

- 1 **Stand fast therefore** in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, **and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.**

Let us instead, take upon us the 'yoke of Jesus', which is 'light and easy', and in whom we can have complete rest and peace.

Matt 11:28-30

- 28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
 29 **Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me;** for I am meek and lowly in heart:
and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
 30 **For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.**

4. CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, we must outsmart the devil by knowing how he works. If you are struggling in your work for the Lord. If you are busy, busy, busy, and there is less joy in your life, and little peace or rest. Perhaps it is the devil causing you to 'strive' in doing the work of the Lord, because of your "Ambition". He is using it against you!

2 Tim 2:24-26

- 24 **And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle** unto all men, apt to teach, patient,
 25 **In meekness instructing** those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
 26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

If the striving continues, then you will leave your 'first love' (Jesus); and then all that you are doing, no matter how great it is or how man looks at it, it is just works! If this continues, the results will be the loss of your Church or the work of your ministry.

Rev 2:1-5

1 **Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write;** These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

2 **I know thy works, and thy labour,** and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

3 And hast borne, and hast patience, **and for my name's sake hast laboured,** and hast not fainted.

4 **Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.**

5 **Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.**

Therefore, know that the spirits that are working here, are the 'spirit of antichrist' and the 'spirit of error'. Remember, they will speak against Christ and of the things of the world. We must 'test the spirits', then cast them out and/or loosen them from off the people and the Church Leaders.

1 Jn 4:1-6

1 **Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God:** because **many false prophets are gone out into the world.**

2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

3 **And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist,** whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

5 **They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.**

6 **We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us;** he that is not of God heareth not us. **Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.**

How we react to others in true love, and not in pretense, determines if we are truly walking with the Lord and in His Will. For God is Love!

1 Jn 4:7-8

7 **Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.**

8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; **for God is love.**

Only Jesus and yourself know who you are and what you are thinking. (The thoughts and intents of your Heart)

Is it "Ambition" that is driving you, or the Lord?

Heb 4:12

12 **For the (logos) word of God (Jesus) is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit (the individual), and of the joints and marrow (the Church), and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**

This is The Lord's Final Warning! You cannot hide from Him!

Rev 2:7

7 **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.**

We pray that this is THE END of your "Ambition"!

AMEN!!

IN HIS LOVE,

TIMOTHY II

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

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Authorized (King James) Version

Produced By:

The National Bible Press - Philadelphia

Copyright 1944, National Publishing Company

Comments:

This text has been used as the source for all scriptures.

Some verses of scripture have been shortened or used in partial form.

This is to strengthen their importance to the subject matter; not to change their meaning nor meant to be taken out of the context in which they are written.

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Comments:

The Dictionary is used to help clarify our understanding of what certain words mean in today's English language.

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